M

Secta. IX-27—100,000—21-8-48.

REVENUE (195 48) Department.

SERIES.

G.O. No. 1348

Dated 7—6—1948.

[Despatch Abstract.]

PROHIBITION - Madras Prohibition Act, 1937 - Exemption to troops - Further amendments to the Act and Rules - Proposals of the Board.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
Abstract.

PROHIBITION - Madras Prohibition Act, 1937 - Exemption to troops - Further amendments to the Act and Rules - Proposals of the Board.

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Revenue Department.

To A.S.

Please see Legal department note on p.33 ante.

2. Exemption of troops:- Now that the Bill at (RR) has become law, action has to be taken to issue a notification showing the provisions of the Prohbition Act from which troops are exempt and the conditions subject to which they are exempt. A draft notification on the subject was submitted by the Board at the end of 1946 - please see pp.6-9 c.f. The draft notification submitted by the Board included also the form in which licences should be issued to military canteens. Subsequently the Government have in G.O.No.354 Rev., dated 17-2-1948 approved certain amendments to the form of canteen licences. The Govt. have also in Memo No.13249 D/48, dated 3-3-48 asked the Board to examine whether any further amendments to the form of canteen licences are neeessary to tighten up the regulations. The Board may therefore be requested to submit a revised draft notification for the approval of the Government. With reference to the orders in G.O.No.354 Rev., dated 17-2-1948 and Govt. Memo No.13249 D/48-1, dated 3-3-48.

3. The Board previously suggested that members of the Armed forces who are exempted from taking out permits might also be allowed to consume liquor in clubs licensed to issue liquor to its members. Pending the amendment of the Prohibition Act, the Board's proposal was approved by the Government in G.O.No.2744 Revenue, dated 13-12-1946. The Cabinet has subsequently decided that this provision is not necessary. The orders in G.O.No.2744 Rev., dated 13-12-1946 may therefore be cancelled.

4. Transport by ~~road~~ Road:- In its reference at pp.20-21 c.f. the Board of Revenue has suggested certain safeguards which should be adopted if transport of liquor by road was allowed. These safeguards may be incorporated in a draft notification. The Board may be requested to submit a draft notification for the approval of the Government.

5. Licences to possess and issue of liquor:- The Cabinet has already decided that executive instructions should be issued that no licence should be given to private dealers and that in districts a Gazetted Government officers should be authorised to store and issue liquor. Necessary action in this regard is being taken separately.

6. A draft order is submitted. A C.B.E. will be made for 15-8-1948 to watch for the Board's reply to paras 1 and 3 of the G.O. After issue necessary extracts will be taken for considering whether the exemption of troops should be continued for any further period after 30-9-48.

Intd. x x
25-5-48

D.S.

H.M.(P.W)

H.Pr. may also kindly see.

Intd. M.B. 26/5

H.Pr.

Issue.

For Indian troops it ~~xi~~ is not necessary to allow exemption.

C.P.R. 28/5.

To A.S.

With reference to the orders of the Hon'ble Premier above it is submitted that pending the issue of the revised notification called for in para 1 of the draft order below Indian troops are also being exempted from the provisions of the Prohibition Act. In October last this Government suggested to the Military authorities that Indian officers need not be allowed foreign liquor and that Indian soldiers need not be allowed Indian beer. The General Officer Commanding the Madras Area then replied that he appreciated the desire of the Madras Government that the army stationed in the Presidency should conform to the policy of Prohibition but that so long as the Government of India and all the Provinces did not enforce Prohibition and the present Armed Forces Canteen Directorate was in being, the officers and men of the Armed Forces stationed in the Madras Presidency should be allowed their liquor quota. He also recommended that the question of the Forces conforming to Prohibition be deferred particularly as a very large percentage of troops stationed in the Presidency were visitors from Provinces which at present did not conform to Prohbition. In the circumstances it is for orders whether the exemption of Indian troops may continue till 30-9-1948.

2. The provision exempting members of the Armed Forces remained in force till 30-9-48; but the Provincial Government may, from time to time, by notification in the Fort St. George Gazette, direct that that xxxx section shall remain in force for any further period specified in the notification. The question whether the exemption should remain after 30-9-48 has therefore to be examined separately in consultation with the military authorities. The question whether the exemption of Indian troops may continue after 30-9-48 may be examined in that connection.

3. The draft order below may issue.

H.Pr. has agreed to the issue of the draft, which may therefore go

The other point may be examined separately.

Intd. x x
5/6/48.

(True copy)

A. Narayanan
30.6.48

KRVD.19.12.

OFFICE ASSISTANT, M.R.O.

BVP 21-1-54 Jeu 21/1/54